

House Bill 71

By: Representatives Day of the 163<sup>rd</sup>, Horne of the 71<sup>st</sup>, and Neal of the 1<sup>st</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To amend Code Section 36-20-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the training of elected members of county governing authorities, so as to require elected members of a county governing authority to satisfactorily complete a course of training on comprehensive emergency preparedness and response; to amend Code Section 36-45-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the training of elected members of municipal governing authorities, so as to require elected members of a municipal governing authority to satisfactorily complete a course of training on comprehensive emergency preparedness and response; to amend Code Section 38-3-22.1, relating to training and technical assistance offered by the Georgia Emergency Management Agency for plans addressing threats of terrorism, so as to require the Georgia Emergency Management Agency to provide a course of instruction on comprehensive emergency preparedness and response to newly elected members of county and municipal authorities; to provide definitions; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

**SECTION 1.**

Code Section 36-20-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the training of elected members of county governing authorities, is amended by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c) and inserting a new subsection (b) to read as follows:

"(b) In addition to the training requirements found in subsection (a) of this Code section, all persons elected as members of a county governing authority shall enroll in, attend, and satisfactorily complete a course of training and instruction of at least 16 hours on matters pertaining to comprehensive emergency preparedness and response. Such course of training and instruction shall include, but not be limited to, local response to a natural or manmade disaster, pandemic, or epidemic, crisis response team development, site surveys and safety audits, crisis management planning, exercise design, safe school planning, emergency operations planning, bomb threat management, model safety plans, and such other matters

1 as may be deemed necessary and appropriate by the Georgia Emergency Management  
2 Agency. The course of instruction shall be approved and made available by the Georgia  
3 Emergency Management Agency through and in cooperation with the Georgia County  
4 Leadership Academy."

## 5 **SECTION 2.**

6 Code Section 36-45-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the training of  
7 elected members of municipal county governing authorities, is amended by redesignating  
8 subsection (b) as subsection (c) and inserting a new subsection (b) to read as follows:

9 "(b) In addition to the training requirements found in subsection (a) of this Code section, all  
10 persons elected as members of a municipal governing authority shall enroll in, attend, and  
11 satisfactorily complete a course of training and instruction of at least 16 hours on matters  
12 pertaining to comprehensive emergency preparedness and response. Such course of training  
13 and instruction shall include, but not be limited to, local response to a natural or manmade  
14 disaster, pandemic, or epidemic, crisis response team development, site surveys and safety  
15 audits, crisis management planning, exercise design, safe school planning, emergency  
16 operations planning, bomb threat management, model safety plans, and such other matters  
17 as may be deemed necessary and appropriate by the Georgia Emergency Management  
18 Agency. The course of instruction shall be approved and made available by the Georgia  
19 Emergency Management Agency through and in cooperation with the Harold F. Holtz  
20 Municipal Training Institute."

## 21 **SECTION 3.**

22 Code Section 38-3-22.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to training and  
23 technical assistance offered by the Georgia Emergency Management Agency for plans  
24 addressing threats of terrorism, is amended by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e)  
25 and inserting a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

26 "(d) The Georgia Emergency Management Agency shall provide 16 hours of initial training  
27 and instruction to elected members of county and municipal authorities pertaining to  
28 comprehensive emergency preparedness and response as required by Code Sections 36-20-4  
29 and 36-45-4. Such emergency preparedness course shall include, but not be limited to,  
30 preparing for local response to a natural or manmade disaster, pandemic, or epidemic."

## 31 **SECTION 4.**

32 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2007.

## 33 **SECTION 5.**

- 1 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.